

What is the CORE Upgrade?

As the installation date for the CORE software upgrade gets closer, we wanted to inform the MMARS user community about the new software and changes to MMARS brought about by the upgrade.

CORE -- or MMARS CORE -- is the underlying software that supports the Commonwealth's accounting system application (a.k.a. MMARS) and enables it to function as it does. Upgrading that foundation software is the first step of many towards implementing a host of technical improvements to the system. Once completed, this upgrade will enable the Commonwealth to move forward with a number of initiatives -- from adding a Graphical User Interface (GUI) to MMARS, to implementing the latest in decision support tools.

* Please note, CORE does not change the way New Features currently works or looks today.

What Does the Upgrade Entail?

From a user's standpoint, the CORE upgrade incorporates six key changes. These changes range from cosmetic screen format changes to functional changes that impact the way documents are created. These changes are presented below in roughly the order you will encounter them as a user, beginning with your logging onto MMARS under the new CORE software.

I. MMARS Log On Screen

There are two primary changes to the MMARS Log On screen. (For comparison, Figures 1.a and 1.b on page 2 show the new and old screens). First, the USER ID and PASSWORD fields are gone. As a result, you are no longer required to enter them when logging on to MMARS. Effectively, the MMARS ID is now the same as the UAID. For the majority of users, your current UAID will remain valid. Users who previously had multiple MMARS id's will be assigned additional UAID's. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please see your department's security officer. Second, the SELECTION field has been removed; in its place is the COMMAND field ((A) on Figure 1.a below).

Navigating around and from the MMARS Log On screen is done as follows:

- To choose a selection from the MMARS Log On Screen:
 - a) type the number for the desired selection in the COMMAND field ((A) in Figure 1.a below); and
 - b) hit the enter key. Depending upon your choice, the system will bring you directly to the proper screen.
- To exit MMARS via the MMARS Log On Screen:
 - a) type a "99" in the COMMAND field ((A) in Figure 1.a below); and
 - b) hit the enter key. The system will bring you directly to the OMIS Gateway Menu.